

Woodcock Background Information

- Short 30-day framework we split into two 15-day segments to provide some opportunity for western hunters (early) and eastern hunters (late).
- Singing-ground survey:
 - 1 year trend (2007-2008): no change in Eastern Region.
 - 10 year trend (1999-2008): no significant trend.
 - Long-term (1966-2008): 1.2% decline per year.
- Long-term decline in woodcock population. Recent research in the Northeast indicates hunting has little effect on population trend, but habitat is limiting.

Recent Seasons (bag limit has been 3 birds)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Season Dates</u>		<u>Days</u>	<u>Hunters</u>	<u>Harvest*</u>
2007-2008	Oct. 27 – Nov. 10	Dec. 22 – Jan. 5	30	500	2,600
2006-2007	Nov. 4 – 18	Dec. 23 – Jan. 6	30	1,600	3,069
2005-2006	Nov. 12 – 26	Dec.17 – Dec 31	30	1,400	4,100
2004-2005	Oct. 30 – Nov. 13	Dec.18 – Jan. 1	30	2,000	2,000
2003-2004	Nov. 1 – 15	Dec. 20 – Jan. 3	30	3,000	4,700
2002-2003	Nov. 2 – 16	Dec. 21 - Jan. 4	30	1,900	1,200
2001-2002	Nov. 3 - 17	Dec. 22 - Jan. 5	30	1,577	1,400
2000-2001	Nov. 4 - 18	Dec. 23 - Jan. 6	30	1,452	1,600
1999-2000	Oct. 30 - Nov. 13	Dec. 18 - Jan. 1	30	1,632	1,800
1998-1999	Oct. 31 - Nov. 14	Dec. 19 - Jan. 2	30		
1997-1998	Nov. 1 - Nov. 15	Dec. 20 - Jan. 3	30		
1996-1997	Oct. 28 - Nov. 23	Dec. 18 - Jan. 4	45		
1996-1997	Oct. 28 - Nov. 23	Dec. 18 - Jan. 4	45		
1995-1996	Oct. 30 - Nov. 25	Dec. 20 - Jan. 6	45		
1994-1995	Oct. 31 - Nov. 26	Dec. 21 - Jan 7	45		
1993-1994	Oct. 25 - Nov. 20	Dec. 22 - Jan. 8	45		
1992-1993	Nov. 2 - Nov. 28	Dec. 16 - Jan. 2	45		
1991-1992	Nov. 4 - Nov. 30	Dec. 18 - Jan. 4	45		
1990-1991	Nov. 5 - Dec. 1	Dec. 19 - Jan 5	45		

* Hunter and Harvest estimates are available from HIP for the period 1999 – 2007. (1990-98 Averages: harvest = 3,549, No. hunters = 1,290 - derived from Federal Duck Stamp survey).